



EXPEDITED PROCEDURE - EXAMINING GROUP 1644

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Bianca M. Conti-Fine

Examiner: Patrick J. Nolan

Serial No.: 08/991,143

Group Art Unit: 1644

Filed: December 16, 1997

Docket: 600.423US1

Title: METHODS TO TREAT UNDESIRABLE IMMUNE RESPONSES

AMENDMENT & RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Box AF

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the final Office Action mailed November 5, 1999, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Claims

Please cancel claim 40.

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Twice amended) A method of preventing or inhibiting an indication or disease associated with aberrant, pathogenic or undesirable antibody production which is specific for a particular endogenous antigen, comprising: administering to the respiratory tract of a human [mammal] afflicted with, or at risk of, the indication or disease a dosage form comprising an amount of at least one epitope peptide, a variant thereof or a combination thereof, wherein the administration of the dosage form is effective to alter the aberrant, pathogenic or undesirable antibody production in humans having divergent HLA haplotypes, wherein the sequence of the epitope peptide comprises a universal, immunodominant epitope, and wherein the peptide comprises less than the sequence of the endogenous antigen.
2. (Twice amended) A method of suppressing, tolerizing or inhibiting the priming or activity of CD4⁺ T cells which are associated with antibody production [preventing or inhibiting an indication or disease associated with aberrant, pathogenic or undesirable antibody production which is] specific for a particular antigen, comprising: administering

DO
NOT
ENTER
P.N.
5/23/00